

§ 200.407

§ 200.407 Prior written approval (prior approval).

Under any given Federal award, the reasonableness and allocability of certain items of costs may be difficult to determine. In order to avoid subsequent disallowance or dispute based on unreasonableness or nonallocability, the non-Federal entity may seek the prior written approval of the cognizant agency for indirect costs or the Federal awarding agency in advance of the incurrence of special or unusual costs. Prior written approval should include the timeframe or scope of the agreement. The absence of prior written approval on any element of cost will not, in itself, affect the reasonableness or allocability of that element, unless prior approval is specifically required for allowability as described under certain circumstances in the following sections of this part:

- (a) § 200.201 Use of grant agreements (including fixed amount awards), cooperative agreements, and contracts, paragraph (b)(5);
- (b) § 200.306 Cost sharing or matching;
- (c) § 200.307 Program income;
- (d) § 200.308 Revision of budget and program plans;
- (e) § 200.332 Fixed amount subawards;
- (f) § 200.413 Direct costs, paragraph (c);
- (g) § 200.430 Compensation—personal services, paragraph (h);
- (h) § 200.431 Compensation—fringe benefits;
- (i) § 200.438 Entertainment costs;
- (j) § 200.439 Equipment and other capital expenditures;
- (k) § 200.440 Exchange rates;
- (l) § 200.441 Fines, penalties, damages and other settlements;
- (m) § 200.442 Fund raising and investment management costs;
- (n) § 200.445 Goods or services for personal use;
- (o) § 200.447 Insurance and indemnification;
- (p) § 200.454 Memberships, subscriptions, and professional activity costs, paragraph (c);
- (q) § 200.455 Organization costs;
- (r) § 200.456 Participant support costs;
- (s) § 200.458 Pre-award costs;
- (t) § 200.462 Rearrangement and reversion costs;

2 CFR Ch. II (1–1–14 Edition)

(u) § 200.467 Selling and marketing costs; and

(v) § 200.474 Travel costs.

§ 200.408 Limitation on allowance of costs.

The Federal award may be subject to statutory requirements that limit the allowability of costs. When the maximum amount allowable under a limitation is less than the total amount determined in accordance with the principles in this part, the amount not recoverable under the Federal award may not be charged to the Federal award.

§ 200.409 Special considerations.

In addition to the basic considerations regarding the allowability of costs highlighted in this subtitle, other subtitles in this part describe special considerations and requirements applicable to states, local governments, Indian tribes, and IHEs. In addition, certain provisions among the items of cost in this subpart, are only applicable to certain types of non-Federal entities, as specified in the following sections:

- (a) Direct and Indirect (F&A) Costs (§§ 200.412 Classification of costs through 200.415 Required certifications) of this subpart;
- (b) Special Considerations for States, Local Governments and Indian Tribes (§§ 200.416 Cost allocation plans and indirect cost proposals and 200.417 Inter-agency service) of this subpart; and
- (c) Special Considerations for Institutions of Higher Education (§§ 200.418 Costs incurred by states and local governments and 200.419 Cost accounting standards and disclosure statement) of this subpart.

§ 200.410 Collection of unallowable costs.

Payments made for costs determined to be unallowable by either the Federal awarding agency, cognizant agency for indirect costs, or pass-through entity, either as direct or indirect costs, must be refunded (including interest) to the Federal government in accordance with instructions from the Federal agency that determined the costs are unallowable unless Federal statute or regulation directs otherwise. See also